

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants requests the Examiner to reconsider this application in view of the proposed amendments above and the following remarks.

The only outstanding issues relate to 35 USC 112. Claims 1, 3-22 and 24-27 are pending. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 26 and 27 are allowed and that all other claims would be allowable if amended to overcome certain "indefiniteness" issues. In addition, applicants appreciate the Examiner's acceptance of the Substitute Specification and have carefully noted the Examiner's objections thereto.

Objections to the Specification

Applicants have further amended their substitute specification to correct the various issues the Examiner has pointed out in the Office Action. With respect to the requested correction to Figure 3 to include reference numerals 21 & 27, applicants propose instead to amend paragraphs [0038], [0040] of their specification to make them consistent with the "21a", "21b", "27a", "27b" reference numerals used in Figure 3. Applicants are attaching a proposed correction of Figure 3 to include metallic cover "M" and propose to further amend paragraph [0040] of their detailed description to repeat the sentence from paragraph [0023] while including the reference to "M".

With respect to the Examiner's request that "[t]he dielectric for the capacitive coupling" needs to be disclosed, please see paragraph [0038] and Figure 3. Applicants believe that someone of ordinary skill in the art would be able to choose, as a matter of

routine exercise of skill in the art, a dielectric material with appropriate loss, dielectric strength, capacitive and other characteristics suitable for the particular desired RF frequency and power level.

As the Examiner requested, applicants have deleted the reference to related case at page 1 paragraph [0002] but continue to apprise the Examiner of the existence of that case – which is awaiting examination by Examiners H. Banks and D. Marsha of Group Art Unit 2686.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC 112, Second Paragraph

With respect to claims 1 and 24, applicants have changed the phrase "connected at least indirectly" to "connected" in order to make it clear that the connection could be direct and/or indirect. Applicants have also amended these claims to change "formed" to "disposed" as the Examiner suggested.

Further with respect to claim 1, applicants have introduced "first and second" terminology to eliminate the possible confusion the Examiner points out with respect to "extending the respective preceding further inward connection line...." See also amendments to claim 24.

With respect to claim 6, applicants have rephrased "share of the power" as the Examiner suggested.

With respect to claim 12, applicants have changed "above-mentioned elements" to recite specific elements as the Examiner suggested.

Claim 14 has also been amended as the Examiner suggested to avoid using the term "triplate."

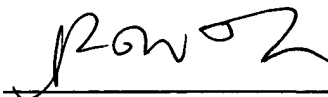
Applicants Respectfully Request Entry of This Amendment

Rule 116(b) provides in pertinent part: "After a final rejection or other final action (§ 1.113) in an application ... amendments may be made canceling claims or complying with any requirement of form expressly set forth in a previous Office action." Since the amendments herein to the specification and claims are presented merely to comply with requirements of form expressly set forth in the previous Office action and since those amendments are believe to place this application in condition for allowance, applicants respectfully request that they be entered.

Should any minor issues remain outstanding, the Examiner should contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below so they can be resolved expeditiously without need of a further written action.

Respectfully submitted,

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